

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TREASURY

INFO USSAGE NAKHON PHANOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COGARD POLAD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 26 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

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SFRC'S SPARKMAN URGES PRES REQUEST VN PEACE CONFERENCE BE

RECONVENED TO DEAL WITH WORSENING REFUGEE PROBLEM IN SVN AND CAMBODIA, SINCE C-F SIGNATORIES HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO CONSULT EACH OTHER WHEN VIOLATION "THREATENS THE PEACE" (CSM; MADDEN, NYT; KILPATRICK, WP). SEN GRIFFIN SAID BY DELAYING ACTION ON ADMIN'S EMERGENCY AID REQUEST, CONGRESS BY DEFAULT TURNING BACK ON US INDOCHINA ALLIES (REUTER).

SHARPLY DIVIDED SFRC GIVES LUKEWARM SUPPORT TO FURTHER MIL AID TO GKR, WITH MAJORITY REPORT SAYING "NO GOOD SOLUTIONS FOR THE CAMBODIAN TRAGEDY." MINORITY REPORT ON BILL, PASSED 9-8 LAST WK, CONCLUDES FURTHER AID WILL PROLONG "HOPELESS BLOODY STRUGGLE." SFRC BILL WOULD GIVE 82.5 MILLION DOLS IN MIL AID FOR NEXT 3 MOS WITH TOTAL CUTOFF JUNE 30, AND 73 MILLION IN EXTRA FOOD AND ECON AID. BILL WON'T REACH SENATE FLOOR UNTIL APR 7, FOLLOWING EASTER RECESS (WP).

PRES ORDERS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF TO VN FOR ON-THE-SPOT

ASSESSMENT OF MIL SITUATION AND TO RECOMMEND POSSIBLE NEW US AID (CSM; NYDN). WH SAID AMB MARTIN WOULD ACCOMPANY (CSM). NESSEN SAID WEYAND HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH THIEU AND PRES WANTS HIM TO CONVEY TO SVN STRONG SUPPORT AND TELL THEM HE IS MAKING ALL-OUT EFFORT TO GET MORE AID FROM CONGRESS (MADDEN NYT). DISPATCH OF WEYAND INTENDED BUOY GVN. WH AWARE WEYAND'S CREDIBILITY HIGH WITH CONGRESS (CORDDRY, SUN). APPEARS LITTLE IF ANYTHING ADMIN CAN DO TO HELP GVN, BUT PRES INSTRUCTED GEN CONVEY EXPRESSIONS OF "STRONG SUPPORT" TO THIEU AND SVN PEOPLE (KILPATRICK, WP).

US TO START EVACUATING 10,000 REFUGEES DAILY FROM DA NANG, WILL FLY ABOUT 350,000 TO CAM RANH ACCORDING DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN SAIGON. DOS SPOKESMAN SAID WOULD ALSO BE SEALIFT FROM DA NANG (AP, NYDN). AIRLIFT BY CONTRACT COMMERCIAL PLANES (PHINQ). DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAY DA NANG VULNERABLE, WEAKLY DEFENDED, AND "CRITICAL SITUATION" COULD DEVELOP QUICKLY (CHITRIB). AID FINANCING UNDERTAKING BY JET TRANSPORT, BARGES AND TUGS STARTING MAR 26, WILL START WITH 727 BUT SOON AS POSSIBLE USE 747 TO CARRY 12-1500 PER FLIGHT. REFUGEES WILL GO TO CAMPS IN KHANH HOA UNCLASSIFIED

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PROV, WHOSE CAPITAL NHA TRANG MAY BE THREATENED; NINH THUAN, NEAR CAM RANH BAY; AND BINH THUAN, NW OF SAIGON (CORDDRY, SUN). CAM RANH BAY WILL BE USED AS STAGING AREA FOR EVENTUAL PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT IN NEARBY PROVS UNDER GVN PLAN (OBERDORFER, WP). MOST DA NANG FOREIGNERS, INCLUDING AMERICANS, BEING FLOWN OUT (BROWNE, NYT).

TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SOLDIERS, REFUGEES SCRAMBLING TO LEAVE HUE, WITH MANY SWIMMING OUT TO SHIPS, AS GVN DECIDES ABANDON RATHER THAN DEFEND CITY AGAINST OVERWHELMING NVA FORCE (AP NYDN, NYT). COMMUNISTS BLOCK HIGHWAY 1, STRANDING THOUSANDS IN HUE AS RESIDENTS FLEE TO BEACHES E OF CITY IN HOPES FINDING SHIP (PHINQ). GVN FORCES CONTINUE HUE WITHDRAWAL WITH COLLAPSE OF DEFENSES (OBERDORFER). ABOUT 1/3 OF ESTIMATED 200,000 POPULATION REPORTEDLY LEFT BEHIND. LOSS OF HUE WILL BE INCALCULABLE BLOW TO SVN MORALE BECAUSE OF IMPORTANCE AS OLD CAPITAL, CULTURAL CENTER AND "ALMOST MYSTICAL PLACE- (BROWNE, NYT). CHITRIB'S YATES AT DA NANG DESCRIBES ARRIVAL OF REFUGEES AND TROOPS FROM HUE AND THEIR DISGUST AT "SURRENDER" AFTER GVN SAID IT WOULD BE DEFENDED.

THIEU ORDERS CABINET SHUFFLE, INVITES "QUALIFIED ANTI-COMMUNIST NATIONALISTS" JOIN "FIGHTING" GOVT TO COPE WITH EMERGENCY SITUATION (AP, NYDN; CHITRIB). POLITICAL ANALYSTS INTERPRET THIEU ANNOUNCEMENT AS CALL

TO MODERATE ELEMENTS, BUT MORE RADICAL GROUPS IMMEDIATELY REJECTED OFFER (PHINQ). NO INDICATION WHO WOULD BE INVITED TO SERVE, WHEN CABINET RESHUFFLE EXPECTED, OR WHETHER PRESENT PLANS ENVISAGE SWEEPING LEADERSHIP IMPROVEMENT MANY OBSERVERS CONSIDER NECESSARY IF REST OF SVN NOT TO FALL (BROWNE). GVN SOURCES SAY CABINET CHANGE EXPECTED NEXT MONTH BUT MAY HAVE BEEN MOVED UP TO ALLOW THIEU STRENGTHEN HAND, BUT REMAINS BE SEEN IF SHAKEUP WILL DO MUCH TO SHORE UP THIEU'S DWINDLING PRESTIGE AMONG GENERALS, PUBLIC (OBERDORFER).

REFUGEE COLUMN FROM HIGHLANDS STOPPED BY COMMUNIST FIRE
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6 MILES FROM TUY HOA (AP, NYDN). OVER 10,000 REFUGEES FROM COLUMN AIRLIFTED INTO TUY HOA BY COPTER OVER LAST 4 DAYS. DESTROYED BRIDGE REPAIRED AND COLUMN EXPECTED POUR INTO COASTAL CITY MAR 26, AS ARVN ASSAULTS COMMUNIST GUN POSITIONS THAT RAKED COLUMN. TWO POLITICAL OPPONENTS BLAME THIEU FOR 50,000 REFUGEES THEY SAID DIED ON MARCH (PHINQ; OBERDORFER). MANCHESTER GUARDIAN'S WOOLLACOTT IN SAIGON (PHINQ) DESCRIBES WAVE OF PANIC SET OFF BY THIEU'S WITHDRAWAL FROM HIGHLANDS, SEES IT SPREADING INTO AREAS AS YET UNTOUCHED BY FIGHTING. POINTS OUT LAM DONG PROV AS EXAMPLE. ATTRIBUTES REACTION TO CONSPIRATORIAL VIET MENTALITY, "GOD-LIKE AUTHORITY" OF BBC BROADCASTS, AND THIEU'S FAILURE EXPLAIN PURPOSES. NYT (SAIGON) BELIEVES REFUGEE TORRENT DUE TO FEAR OF WAR, NOT OF COMMUNISTS.

NOTES NVA APPARENTLY HAS PERMITTED SOME RESIDENTS LEAVE BAN ME THUOT. SEES PEOPLE CAUGHT IN "MOMENTUM OF ESCAPE" RATHER THAN RUNNING FOR POLITICAL REASONS.

PETERSON (NYT) DOES BACKGROUND PIECE ON DA NANG, "CITY IN COCKPIT OF TURMOIL." SUN'S ISAACS IN DA NANG FINDS CITY NERVOUS, NOT PANICKING, DESCRIBES REFUGEES WHO MADE "AMAZING" RETREAT LAST WEEK. OPINES INFLUX BEYOND DA NANG'S ABILITY TO ABSORB WITH ECONOMY ALREADY IN DEEP DEPRESSION. SEES CITY AGAIN AWAKENING TO MISERY OF WAR AND CROWDED WITH HUNGER, DESPAIR AND FEARS OF FUTURE. AP REPORTS DOS ESTIMATE THAT 200-250 AMERICANS STILL IN DA NANG (NYDN). GVN REPORTEDLY FORMING NEW DEFENSE LINE AROUND DA NANG; 3-400 AMERICANS STILL IN CITY, INCLUDING FAMILIES OF DIPLOMATS AND CIVILIANS UNDER CONTRACT TO GVN (CHITRIB). DA NANG APPEARS IMPERILED, AS ROCKETS HIT CITY HERALDING COMMUNIST OPERATION IN AREA (BROWNE).

IN GVN NATL ASSEMBLY, DEPUTY DECLARED US INSISTED GVN SIGN C-F, THEN "ABANDONED US" IN "BETRAYAL" THAT CAUSED DEATHS OF MANY VIETS; CALLED ON US TO REVERSE POLICIES.

ANTI-US STATEMENTS BY PRO-GVN LEGISLATORS RARE IN RECENT MONTHS (OBERDORFER; EXCERPTED IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

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HALVERSON (CSM) NOTES DOD OFFICIALS PRIVATELY GIVE NVA HIGH MARKS AS ASSAULT "STUNNED" MANY MIL ANALYSTS. SOME ANALYSTS BELIEVE ALL-OUT OFFENSIVE NOW MAY COME THIS YEAR AS NVA MOVES IN AROUND SAIGON. SEES ORGANIZATION AS KEY TO HANOI SUCCESS. OTHER ELEMENTS INCLUDE FLEXIBILITY, FIREPOWER AND EQUIPMENT. CSM'S SOUTHERLAND IN SAIGON WONDERS WHERE GVN CAN DRAW LINE, OPINES ARVN MAY UNRAVEL DOWN COAST BELOW DA NANG. QUOTES SOME MIL EXPERTS THAT THIEU DECISION LOGICAL, BUT SEE HIM TAKING BIG RISK SINCE WITHDRAWALS CARRY DANGER OF CREATING PSYCHOLOGY OF DEFEAT. RUMORS ABOUND, AND QUICK GVN ACTION NEEDED TO SHOW DRAWING LINE SOMEWHERE, OTHERWISE UNRAVELLING MAY NOT STOP. NYT'S BUTTERFIELD IN SAIGON SEES SUDDEN SHIFT IN THIEU STRATEGY AS KEY FACTOR IN DEBACLE; SWITCH SOUND, BUT CARRIED OUT HASTILY AND WITH LITTLE COORDINATION, CREATING PANIC AND "SNOWBALL EFFECT" (EXCERPTED IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

HATIEN, IN DELTA CLOSE TO KHMER BORDER, TAKEN BY NVA (OBERDORFER; PHINQ). LOSS SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE PRESENCE OF NVA TANKS IN DELTA (BROWNE). NYT'S WEINRAUB IN CAN THO REPORTS THAT SHORTAGES HAMPER

DEFENDERS IN DELTA AS MIL PREPARE FOR MAJOR ENEMY THRUST. NYT SPECIAL FROM CAN THO SAYS PEOPLE IN DELTA NERVOUSLY AWAIT NVA MOVE, BUT DON'T PANIC, HOPE FOR EARLY RAINS. NYT'S MIDDLETON SEES FALL OF HATIE AS FIRST MOVE IN NVA OPERATION DESIGNED TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GVN WEAKNESS IN AREA. GVN RESPONSE THERE AND ELSEWHERE LIMITED BY FUEL AND OTHER SHORTAGES AND MAY HAVE TO FIGHT FROM FIXED POSITIONS, GIVING ADVANTAGE TO NVA. IN SAIGON AREA, NVA NIBBLES AT GVN OUTPOSTS. ARVN IN DELTA HAS DIFFICULT TERRAIN TO DEFEND AND FUEL SHORTAGE LIMITS COPTER FLIGHTS. STRATEGICALLY DELTA IS RICH, TEMPTING PRIZE SINCE NVA SUCCESS THERE WILL CUT OFF SAIGON'S RICE.

WP'S MCCOMBS IN SAIGON DOES HUMAN-INTEREST PIECE ON VIET STUDENT CAUGHT IN DRAFT WHO BELIEVES HE WILL "NEVER GET OUT" OF ARMY, AND WILL BE FIGHTING FOR "CORRUPT MINORITY." FAMILY, THAT FLED NVN IN 1954, WORRIES ABOUT RECENT MIL EVENTS BUT HAS NO PLACE TO UNCLASSIFIED

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"RUN AWAY."

DOD ANNOUNCES SEABOARD AIRLINE DC-8 WILL JOIN FOUR AIRLINES ALREADY ON RICE-LIFT TO PP (UPI NYDN, NYT; PHINQ).

FANK DRIVE INTO "ROCKET BELT" W OF PP HALTED BY INTENSE FIRE (CHITRIB). REBELS ADVANCE ON POCHENTONG, WINNING BETTER POSITIONS TO THREATEN AIRLIFT PLANES. 20 ROCKETS HIT AIRPORT. NEAK LUONG CONTINUES UNDER SIEGE AND LOSES 2 PERIMETER POSITIONS (PHINQ). MIL ANALYSTS SAY INSURGENTS MAY MOVE US-MADE 105-MM HOWITERS INTO POSITION TO TRY HALT AIRLIFT (AP, NYDN). ROCKET BELT OPERATION CALLED KEY BATTLE BY MIL OBSERVERS; STALLED GKR DRIVE DRAINED MANPOWER FROM OTHER FRONTS. INSURGENTS REPORTEDLY INFILTRATED SUGAR FACTORY 18 MILES W OF PP THROUGH SEWER, KILLED SCORES OF DEFENDERS AND TOOK FACTORY (AP, SUN). FIVE ROCKETS HIT JUST OUTSIDE US EMBASSY IN PP, FORCING AMB AND STAFF TAKE COVER (UPI, WP). NYT'S ANDELMAN IN PP REPORTS CONTINUED PRESSURE ON AIRPORT. PRES OF BIRD AIR VISITED POCHENTONG BRIEFLY TO REVIEW SAFETY SITUATION, SAID FELT POCHENTONG STILL DANGEROUS.

NYT'S BLUMENTHAL DOES LENGTHY ARTICLE ON BIRD AIR. GIVES HISTORY OF FIRM THAT CONDUCTS "MYSTERIOUS" AIRLIFT TO PP. WP'S FENTON FROM "ROCKET BELT" NEAR AIRPORT DESCRIBES OPERATIONS BY FANK, DEMORALIZED STATE OF SOLDIERS WHO FLED TUOL LEAP. QUOTES OFFICER THAT IF US CUTS OFF AID, KHMER ROUGE WOULD WIN AND

SIHANOUK WOULD RETURN TO PP, AND HE THOUGHT WOULD BE
"GOOD THING" AS DOES EVERY KHMER.

CDN'S TAMARKIN IN PP (3/21) QUOTES RELIABLE SOURCES
THAT SOME GKR OFFICIALS AND CABINET MEMBERS QUIETLY
LEAVING COUNTRY, INCLUDING SIRIK MATAK, SOSTHENE
FERNANDEZ, KEUKY LIM AND HOU HANG. BELIEVES OTHERS
PLAN LEAVE SOON.

IN VIENTIANE, DEFMIN SAID FALL OF CAMBODIA WOULD SERIOUSLY
AFFECT LAOS. STATED HE BELIEVES IN "DOMINO THEORY"
AND THAT OTHERS WOULD FOLLOW GKR FALL; WEAKER WOULD GO
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FIRST, WHILE STRONGER WOULD STAY LONGER (UPI NYT, WP).
ADDED INSURGENT VICTORY WOULD INCREASE PL INFLUENCE
AND ENCOURAGE THEM DEMAND MORE CONCESSIONS (NYT).

2. CHINA

ACCORDING DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN PEKING, CHOU'S HEALTH
HAS IMPROVED, AND HE MAY SOON BE ABLE LEAVE HOSPITAL.
PREMIER WAS VISITED LAST WEEK BY SON OF SRI LANKA PM
(WP).

CSM'S KARACHI CORRESPONDENT REPORTS PAKISTAN DERIVING
POLITICAL RETURNS FROM PRC PARTNERSHIP, BUT MAJOR
POLITICAL RETURNS FROM PRC PARTNERSHIP, BUT MAJOR
BENEFIT PROBABLY IS ECONOMIC -- ADDED MUSCLE FOR GROWING
INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH.

3. JAPAN

BANK OF JAPAN SAYS WILL ALLOW MAJOR CITY BANKS BOOST
LENDING 12.7 PERCENT IN SECOND QUARTER, ON TOP OF 6.4
PERCENT INCREASE FIRST QUARTER. CUTS LAST YEAR RANGED
UP TO 37 PERCENT (CSM).

UPI (LONDON) NOTES LABOR MP GOLDING IN COMMONS MONDAY
CALLED FOR IMPORT QUOTAS ON JAPANESE CARS, UNTIL JAPAN
EVENS "SCANDALOUS" IMBALANCE IN AUTO TRADE. TRADE
SECY SHORE REPLIED ONLY JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION WOULD
BE SHOW DUMPING "SIGNIFICANT CAUSE" OF PRESENT DISTRESS
IN UK AUTO INDUSTRY (JOC).

4. KOREA

DEF MIN SPOKESMAN TUESDAY ACCUSED NK OF SENDING 30
JET FIGHTERS DAY BEFORE TO BUZZ SK ISLAND PAENGNYONG-DO
(REUTER WP, CSM). SAID NK JETS "THREATENED" AIRSPACE

OVER ISLAND, BUT NOT WHETHER PLANES ENTERED SK AIRSPACE (UPI, NYT).

CSM (SEOUL) CITES DEF MIN SPOKESMAN THAT SK, US MILITARY ENGINEERS DIG INTERCEPT TUNNEL INTO NK UNCLASSIFIED

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SPY TUNNEL UNDER DMZ; INVESTIGATION LIMITED BY FOUL AIR, NEED PROCEED WITH CAUTION.

SK SUPREME COURT LIFTS 8-MONTH HOUSE ARREST OF FORMER PRES YUN PO SUN, CONVICTED BY COURT MARTIAL LAST YEAR OF AIDING ALLEGED ANTI-GOVT STUDENT PLOT (REUTER, WP).

5. PHILIPPINES

MARCOS INVITES ALL MOSLEM, CHRISTIAN REBEL GROUPS TO MEET GOP REPS IN "FREE-WHEELING" DIALOG IN ZAMBOANGA APRIL 17; GUARANTEES SAFE-PASSAGE TO AND FROM SITE (AP, BALTO N-A 3/25). MARCOS SAID WOULD NOT ATTEND, HOPES MEETING LASTS ONLY 24 HOURS, AND LEADS EVENTUALLY TO PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF SOUTHERN PROBLEM (CHITRIB).

BENGUET CONSOLIDATED PLANS STEP UP GOLD PRODUCTION IN ANTICIPATION CONTINUED FAVORABLE GOLD PRICE TREND; ALSO DEVELOP COPPER PROPERTIES "AT SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED PACE" DUE TO SOFT MARKET, ACCORDING ANNUAL REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS (WSJ).

6. HONG KONG

JOC'S STRAUSS IN HK SAYS BUSINESSMEN, GOVT OFFICIALS DISAPPOINTED, SOME ANGRY AT HK ABSENCE FROM LIST OF NATIONS ON USG SCHEDULE OF PREFERENCES. NOTES HK ON LIST OF AREAS AWAITING FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

7. INDONESIA

AFP (JAKARTA) CITES MINING MIN SADLI CONFIRMATION GOI TAKING OVER PERTAMINA FINANCES DUE BUSINESS DIFFICULTIES, AND FOREIGN CREDITORS TO BE PAID FULLY (WP). EXPERTS, INCLUDING US OILMEN, SAY PERTAMINA OVEREXTENDED AND REVENUES SLIPPED WHEN JAPAN CUT OIL IMPORTS. REPUBLICAN NATL BANK (DALLAS) AND TORONTO DOMINION BANK SPOKESMEN SAY PERTAMINA PAID OFF LOANS DUE MARCH, AFTER SLIGHT DELAY (WSJ). GOI INSTRUCTS PERTAMINA REPAY RATHER THAN ROLL OVER SHORT-TERM FOREIGN DEBTS DUE IN NEAR FUTURE; BANK INDONESIA EARMARKS 650 MILLION DOLS TO UNCLASSIFIED

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ENSURE PAYMENT, ACCORDING FE ECON REVIEW (CITED CSM).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

8. INDOCHINA

WILLS (SUN 3/24) STATES WAY OUT OF CAMBODIA IS TO GET OUT, RATHER THAN TALK OF CHANGING REGIME OR BRINGING SIHANOUK BACK (EXCERPTED IN MAR 25 USIA WIRELESS FILE).

LAT (3/2L) BELIEVES SYRIAN PRES MISTAKEN IN COMPARING US INDOCHINA COMMITMENT WITH US COMMITMENT TO ME, SINCE LATTER "COMMITMENT TO PEACE," WHILE FORMER ERRONEOUS INTERVENTION. OPINES HAK WEAKENS HAND WITH INSISTENCE ON RELEVANCE OF INDOCHINA.

NYT (3/23) WEEKLY REVIEW, ENTITLED "INDOCHINA DEJA VU," REVIEWS RECENT VN DEVELOPMENTS; SEES THIEU'S RETREAT BEGINNING NEW US DEBATE, BELIEVES FAST NVA MOVE AGAINST SAIGON COULD TOPPLE REGIME. NOTES HANOI REPORTS THAT MAJOR MOVE AGAINST SAIGON, WITH ATTENDANT CASUALTIES, NOT LIKELY IF DRV FEELS CAN REUNIFY VN WITHOUT DAMAGING RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT. BELIEVES RECORD CLEAR OUR VN INTERVENTION, SUPPORT ONLY DELAYED, NOT PREVENTED, NVN TAKEOVER. ATTRIBUTES RESULT TO NVN AGGRESSIVENESS, WILL AND SENSE OF PURPOSE EXCEEDING THOSE OF SVN LEADERS, SOLDIERS, PEOPLE. REVIEWS EVENTS SINCE C-F, CONCLUDES MAJOR POINT IN UPCOMING ADMIN-CONGRESS DEBATE WILL BE S CREDIBILITY.

BALT SUN SAYS NO SHIFT IN USG POSITION CAN JUSTIFY ANY END TO REFUGEE RELIEF IN VN. SUCH AID SHOULD BE CHanneled THROUGH UN AGENCIES. CALLS ON CONGRESS TO MAKE AVAILABLE NEW REFUGEE RELIEF MONEY.

NYT EDIT CALLS ON US TO ORGANIZE EMERGENCY REFUGEE RELIEF PREFERABLY WITH AID OF INTERNATIONAL ORGS. CALLS ON US TO SEIZE DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE IN EFFORT TO RETURN TO CONFERENCE TABLE, A NEED WHICH HAS OVERTAKEN DEBATE ON AID LEVELS.

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ROBERT HEY IN CSM SAYS LOSS OF HUE MAKES CONGRESS WARY ON ADDITIONAL AID. TENDENCY EXISTS NOW FOR CONGRESS

TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT SITUATION WILL BE NEXT WEEK. IF
SIT. STABILIZES CHANCES FOR ADDED AID WOULD BE HELPED.
POINTS TO SEN MATHIAS' STATEMENT THAT 700 MILLION
FY 75 MIL AID, ONLY 154 MILLION DELIVERED THUS FAR WITH
LARGE SUMS IN PIPELINE OR NOT ORDERED YET.

MARQUIS CHILDS IN BALTSUN DISCUSSES PROSPECTS FOR
DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS IN 76. SAYS FORD
PRISONER OF PAST INDO-CHINA POLICIES WHICH SHOWS
POVERTY OF IMAGINATION.

WSJ REVIEW AND OUTLOOK COLUMN NOTES THAT VN REFUGEES
FLEE FROM THE COMMUNISTS. PEOPLE ONCE MORE VOTING
WITH THEIR FEET. REPRESSIONS OF SAIGON NOTHING COMPARED
TO WHAT THEY EXPECT FROM HANOI. US FOREIGN POLICY
MUST CONTINUE TO REFLECT PERSONAL FREEDOM AND MEASURE
OF MATERIAL PROSPERITY VALUED BY ORDINARY PEOPLE THROUGH-
OUT WORLD.

SAMUEL ADAMS (FORMER CIA EMPLOYEE) IN WSJ ASKS QUESTION
HOW MANY WILL BE KILLED WHEN REDS TAKEOVER IN CAMB AND
VN. NOTES MOST COMMUNIST KILLINGS TAKE PLACE IN COOL,
DELIBERATE MANNER AFTER DECISION BY COMMUNIST MINISTRY
OF PUBLIC SECURITY. ESTIMATES NO LESS THAN 100,000
MIGHT BE KILLED IN VN AND FEWER IN CAMB. ALTHOUGH
LITTLE KNOWN OF KHMER REDS. SAYS ESSENTIAL ISSUE IS
WHAT THE US SHOULD DO. RECOMMENDS OPENING US DOORS
TO REFUGEES ALTHOUGH DOING NOTHING NOT UNLIKELY.

9. CHINA

ANDERSON/WHITTEN (WP) CLAIM HAK SO SENSITIVE OVER
SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP HE HAS NURTURED WITH PRC,
THAT HE PERSONALLY MAKES ALL DECISIONS ON CHINESE
MATTERS, NO MATTER HOW TRIVIAL. AT HIGHEST LEVELS,

HE KEEPS PEKING POSTED ON VIRTUALLY ALL ME NEGOTIATIONS,
GOING OUT OF HIS WAY TO REASSURE CHINESE HE IS DOING
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NOTHING TO HARM THEIR INTERESTS; ON LOWER LEVELS,
HAK TAKES EXTREME CARE NOT TO SHOW ROC SLIGHTEST
FAVOR -- HE HAS CAREFULLY SNUBBED AMB SHEN, WHO HAS
SOUGHT MEETINGS IN VAIN, AND HAS GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS
THAT ROC PARTICIPATION IN US BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
BE KEPT INVISIBLE AS POSSIBLE. CONTENTION CONTROVERSY
HAS ALSO ARISEN OVER INSIGNIFICANT TAIWAN PROJECT
INVOLVING US GRANT OF LESS THAN 100,000 DOLS, FOR FEAR
ROC WILL TRUMPET IT AS SIGN OF US PARTIALITY TOWARD
CKS. HERE, TOO, HAK WILL MAKE FINAL DECISION.

WSJ'S MOFFITT REVIEWS SHIRLEY MACLAINE BOOK, "YOU CAN
GET THERE FROM HERE." SAYS TRYING DESCRIBE, MAKE
SENSE OF CHINA LIFE WITHOUT SLIPPING INTO CATEGORICAL
THINKING PREJUDICED BY WESTERN VALUES WOULD BE DIFFICULT.
MACLAINE HAS DONE GOOD JOB, THOUGH. "SHE NEVER FULLY
UNDERSTOOD CHINA, BUT SHE ADMITS IT." KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED BUDAPEST.

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